

V FOR VENDETTA™

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Suggested
For Mature
Readers

By Alan Moore and David Lloyd





V FOR VENDETTA™

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V FOR VENDETTA 9

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"WE'RE UP AGAINST SOMEONE WHO *ISN'T* 'NORMAL PEOPLE'... EITHER PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY.

"IT'S THE 'MENTALLY' BIT THAT BOTHERS ME..."

"... BECAUSE IF I'M GOING TO CRACK THIS CASE... AND I *AM*... I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET RIGHT INSIDE HIS HEAD.

"TO THINK THE WAY *HE* THINKS..."

"... AND THAT SCARES ME."

I SAID THAT.

I SAID THAT A YEAR AGO, AND NOTHING'S CHANGED, IT'S STILL TRUE.

I'M STILL SCARED.

I KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT THIS STUFF, COULDN'T ASK WITHOUT AROUSING SUSPICION.

LYSERGIC ACID DIETHYLAMIDE; STANDARD DOSE IS ABOUT TWO HUNDRED MICROGRAMMES, BUT HOW DO I MEASURE THAT?

THEY SAY THE TINIEST AMOUNTS CAN ALTER EVERYTHING...

THE FINEST TRACES.

CHAPTER 4 VESTICES



I'VE NEVER SEEN THE CAMPS BEFORE, ONLY PHOTOGRAPHS. SO THIS IS THE TOILET WE FLUSHED ALL THOSE PEOPLE DOWN...



FOUR TABLETS. I WONDER IF THAT'S ENOUGH. I WONDER IF THAT'S TOO MANY?

OH WELL.

AGAINST MY TONGUE LIKE LITTLE PIECES OF SOAP... MY SALIVA TASTING OF TINFOIL... A BUBBLE OF APPREHENSION FORMING LOW IN MY STOMACH...



I SWALLOW, FEELING AS IF I'M LETTING GO OF SOMETHING.

THERE.

NOW I'M STRAPPED IN, COUNTDOWN TICKING FROM BOWEL TO BLOOD-STREAM TO BRAIN, TOWARDS TAKE-OFF, BUT I'VE NEVER FLOWN BEFORE. WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN?



NOTHING. NOTHING YET. BETTER TAKE A LOOK ROUND WHILE IT'S LIGHT.

THESE MUST BE THE OVENS, OVENS FOR PEOPLE, PEOPLE OVENS...

NO, NO USE: STILL CAN'T MAKE IT SEEM REAL. IF I'D KNOWN THIS WAS HAPPENING, WOULD I STILL HAVE JOINED THE PARTY?



PROBABLY. NO BETTER ALTERNATIVES.

WE COULDN'T LET THE CHAOS AFTER THE WAR CONTINUE. ANY SOCIETY'S BETTER THAN THAT WE NEEDED ORDER...



... OR AT LEAST, I DID, LOSING GYTH AND LITTLE PAUL, LIKE THAT, EVERYTHING WAS DISINTEGRATING AND I JUST WANTED...

... TO ...



EUUGH...



I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT.

I SHOULDN'T HAVE TAKEN THE L.S.D.

NOT HERE.

BUT I WANTED TO KNOW... TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE BEING HIM...

IT'S THIS PLACE. IF I CAN JUST GET OUTSIDE ITS WALLS UNTIL I FEEL BETTER...

NO PROBLEM, THE MAIN GATE'S BACK THIS WAY...



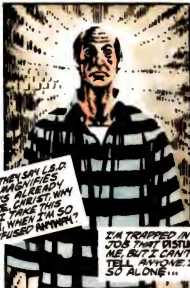
I CAN'T, I CAN'T WALK THAT FAR, MY LEGS FEEL LIKE JELLY AND EVERYTHING'S THRUUUMMING...



THRUUUMMMMMMINGSSSS...

IT'S THE DRUG, I JUST HAVE TO REMEMBER IT'S THE DRUG DOING THIS, BUT...

...BUT THEY SAY L.S.D. ONLY MAGNIFIES WHAT'S ALREADY THERE. CHRIST, WHY DID I TAKE THIS NOW, WHEN I'M SO CONFUSED HUUUUH?



I'M TRAPPED IN A JOB THAT DISTURBS ME, BUT I CAN'T TELL ANYONE, I'M SO ALONE...



SO ALONE.



OY LOOK...

LOOK, THEY'RE ALL SMILING, THEY'RE ALL HAPPY. GOD, IT'S BEEN SO LONG...



I'D FORGOTTEN HOW RICH THE COLOR OF YOUR SKIN WAS, A THOUSAND SPECIAL BLENDS OF COFFEE...

THE GIRLS I SAW HUGGING EACH OTHER ON THE DEMONSTRATIONS, AND THE MEN, SO GENTLE, SO SOFTLY SPOKEN...

OH JESUS, I'VE
MISSED YOU.

I'VE MISSED YOUR VOICES
AND YOUR WALK, YOUR
FOOD, YOUR CLOTHES,
YOUR DYED PINK HAIR.

MY FRIENDS... THERE
AT THE CARNIVAL, THE
GAY PRIDE MARCHES.

SAY YOU SAW BEYOND
MY UNIFORM. PLEASE
SAY YOU KNEW I
CARED, I...

WAIT...
WAIT! WHERE
ARE YOU GOING?

PLEASE...

PLEASE DON'T
LEAVE ME.

WE TREATED YOU SO BADLY,
ALL THE HATEFUL THINGS WE
PRINTED, DID AND SAID... BUT
PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T DE-
SPISE US, WE WERE STUPID, WE
WERE KIDS, WE DIDN'T KNOW.

COME BACK
OR PLEASE
COME BACK.

I LOVE
YOU.

AH...AH...

AH...AH...AH...AH...

I LOVE
YOU, I...

OH ERIC, LOOK AT YOU IN YOUR PYJAMAS! GO BACK TO BED. I'M JUST MAKING BACON AND EGGS TO KEEP YOUR STRENGTH UP.

DELIA?

DELIA, I'M SO MIXED UP IF I COULD JUST GET THINGS STRAIGHT...

WHAT THINGS?

WHAT I'M DOING HERE, WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME...

I REMEMBER THAT I CAME HERE TO FIND SOMETHING OUT... SOMETHING VERY VITAL TO VARIOUS VENTURES... I WAS PLANNING TO TAKE A DRUG...

A DRUG? WELL, THAT'S WHAT I'M HERE FOR. PLEASE ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE...

...AS FOR YOUR EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS, PERHAPS YOU SHOULD TALK TO TOMMY LILLIMAN, HE'S OUR PADRE.

LILLIMAN? I THOUGHT HE WAS A BISHOP?

NO, MERELY A PAWN.

NOW, TELL ME: WHEN DID YOU STOP BELIEVING IN GOD?

B-BUT... I NEVER SAID...

DON'T MOLLICODDLE HIM! BLESSED SAY-PILOTS! NOTHING WRONG WITH HIM A SHOT OF JUNGLE JUICE WON'T LURE, EH?

HMM, YOU'RE PROBABLY RIGHT. IN MY EXPERIENCE, POISON SOLVES MOST OF LIFE'S PROBLEMS...

HE'S FINISHED HERE, ME PROTHEZO, HE'S YOURS.

WHAT...? DELIA, THEY'RE TAKING ME AWAY! DON'T LET THEM...

COME ON, MATEY. DON'T MAKE ME MAD.

DELIA?

DELIA, WHAT ABOUT THE BACON AND EGGS?

... IN NOMINI PATRI, ET FILII, ET SPIRITUS SANCTI...

DELIA, PLEASE, YOU WEREN'T LIKE THEM. I KNOW YOU WEREN'T. YOU HAD A HEART. PLEASE DON'T LET THEM DO THIS.

DELIA, ARE YOU LISTENING? I...

OH NO.

KLUGH!!!

HOW?

HOW DID I GET
HERE, TO THIS
STINKING PLACE,
MY JOB, MY LIFE,
MY CONSCIENCE,
MY PRISON...

THE ANSWER'S
THERE, WRITTEN ON
THE FLOOR FOR ME
TO READ, BUT I
DON'T UNDER-
STAND IT.

AND YES, IT'S
JUST THE
DRUGS, BUT...

BUT HE WAS DRUGGED
TOO, LOCKED AWAY TO
DIE, AND HE REACHED
SOME UNDERSTANDING.

WHY CAN'T I?
I LOOK AT THIS
AND PATTERN,
BUT WHERE ARE
THE ANSWERS?

WHO IMPRISONED
ME HERE?
WHO KEEPS
ME HERE?

WHO CAN RELEASE
ME? WHO'S
CONTROLLING AND
CONSTRAINING MY
LIFE, EXCEPT...

... ME?



I...
I'M
FREE.

FREEEEEE!



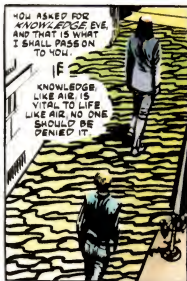






WHY DOES EVERYONE NEED A BIG DEMONSTRATION? I ASK THE SIMPLEST QUESTION, AND IT'S LIKE ALICE IN WONDERLAND.

I'VE BEEN READING FOR MONTHS. I'M SMARTER NOW. COULDN'T YOU TRY JUST EXPLAINING FOR ME?



YOU ASKED FOR KNOWLEDGE, EVE, AND THAT IS WHAT I SHALL PASS ON TO YOU.

IF KNOWLEDGE, LIKE AIR, IS VITAL TO LIFE LIKE AIR, NO ONE SHOULD BE DENIED IT.



OH, Y, COME ON...



YOU'VE ALWAYS KEPT THINGS MYSTERIOUS, YOURSELF. THIS PLACE, YOUR PLANS... IF KNOWLEDGE IS LIKE AIR, YOU'VE BEEN SUFFOCATING ME!

NOT AT ALL I'VE BEEN TEACHING YOU TO BREATHE.

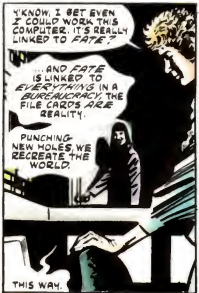
THIS WAY.



REGARD THE AIR OF KNOWLEDGE HERE CONDENSED TO LIQUID ELECTRICITY.

THE FACTS OF ALL SOCIETY ARE CENTRALIZED HEREIN... A FACT THAT'S FIGURED IN SOCIETY'S UNDOINGS...

... FOR I HAVE TAPPED THEIR KNOWLEDGE-WELL. SOON, EVERYONE SHALL DRINK.



Y'KNOW, I GET EVEN I COULD WORK THIS COMPUTER. IT'S REALLY LINKED TO FATE?

... AND FATE IS LINKED TO EVERYTHING IN A BUREAUCRACY, THE FILE CARDS ARE REALITY.

PUNCHING NEW HOLES, WE RECREATE THE WORLD.

THIS WAY.



OH, ARE THESE ROOMS CONNECTED?

EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED.

YOU MUST UNDERSTAND THAT KNOWLEDGE IS NOT ALL YOUR HERITAGE.

IT INCLUDES ALSO COURAGE AND BELIEF, LIKE HERS THAT WE COMMEMORATE HEREIN...



... AND ROMANCE

ALWAYS, ALWAYS ROMANCE.

'MOST INSURRECTIONS CLAMOUR, WE MAY EASILY FORGET JUST WHAT IT IS FOR WHICH WE STRIVE...

ISN'T IT DANCING? SCENTED SHOULDERS? PUPILS WIDENED BY DESIRE OR WINE?

ANARCHY MUST EMBRACE THE DIN OF BOMBS AND CANNON-FIRE...

...YET ALWAYS MUST IT LOVE SWEET MUSIC MORE."

... BUT HOW STRANGE... THE CHANGE... FROM MA-JOR TO MI-NOR... "

NO, I STILL CAN'T GET THAT LAST BIT.

PERSEVERE, EYE. UNDERSTANDING MUSIC, WE MAY HEAR THE MUSIC THAT THERE IS IN LIFE, FROM ITS FIRST TRILLS...

SO LET ME SEE...

OH, I GET IT. THOSE THREE ROOMS UPSTAIRS ARE JOINED WITH THE PIANO ROOM BELOW.

INDEED. IMAGINE WE'RE INSIDE YOUR MIND! EACH AREA WITH ITS SKILLS AND FUNCTIONS: KNOWLEDGE, PLEASURE, CREATIVITY...

...UNTO ITS CLOSING MINOR CHORDS.

ALL THAT REMAINS, THEN, IS TO MAKE THE PROPER NEURAL CONNECTIONS.

UP THERE, THE HIGHER ATTRIBUTES OF REASON, LOVE AND CULTURE ARE CONTAINED.

DOWN HERE, THE SHADOW GALLERY HAS EYES.

WAIT. LET ME GET MY BEARINGS. MY ROOM'S ON THIS LEVEL, OFF THE OTHER STAIRCASE, SOMEWHERE OVER... THERE? IS THAT RIGHT?

UNERRINGLY.

BUT COME... HERE'S SOMETHING THAT YOU'VE NEVER SEEN...

...INDEED FEW MEN
HAVE HAD THE CHANCE
TO STUDY THEIR OWN
OPTIC NERVES.

Y... ALL THESE TV'S
...THEY'RE WORKING.
I THOUGHT YOU'D
BLACKED ALL THE
TELEVISIONS OUT?

OH NO,
THE MONITOR
CAMERAS ARE STILL
FUNCTIONING, BUT OUR
ADVERSARIES' BROAD-
CASTING AND RECEIVING
APPARATUS ISN'T.

MY AP-
PARATUS, BY
CONTRAST, WORKS
PERFECTLY.

OF COURSE, WITH ALL
STATE BROADCASTING
BLANKED OUT, THE ONLY
THINGS I SEEM TO
GET ARE ALL THESE
RIT-ZONE SOAP
OPERAS AND BAD
DISASTER
MOVIES.

SOME-
TIMES I
MISS 'STORM
SAXON.'

THE
DIALOGUE
WAS BETTER.

B-BUT... YOU
CAN SEE ALL
LONDON
FROM HERE!!

NATURALLY,
THIS ROOM'S THE
PINNACLE OF AN
INVERTED HILL,
WHICH ONE DES-
CENDS TO REACH
THE PEAK, BUT
ONCE ARRIVED,
CAN SEE FOR
MILES.

COME...

TOO MUCH TELE-
VISION'S BAD,
AND YOU HAVE
HOMEWORK
STILL TO DO.

IN HERE
YOU'LL FIND
BOOKS AND EQUIP-
MENT THAT WILL
TELL YOU HOW TO
MAKE EXPLOSIVES
OUT OF COFFEE, OR
MAKE PSYCHEDELIC
DRUGS AS CHEAP
AS WATER.

USE THEM
WISELY, IF
AT ALL.

UNLIKE T.V., WE CANNOT
HAVE TOO MUCH OF
SCIENCE, DESPITE ITS
NUCLEAR QUIRKS.

WITH SCIENCE,
IDEAS CAN GERMINATE
WITHIN A BED OF
THEORY, FORM, AND
PRACTICE THAT ASSISTS
THEIR GROWTH... BUT
WE, AS GARDENERS,
MUST BEWARE...

FOR SOME SEEDS
ARE THE SEEDS
OF RUIN...

... AND THE
MOST IRIDESCENT
BLOOMS ARE OFTEN
THE MOST
DANGEROUS.

OH, THE ROSE ROOM.

YOU KNOW, THIS PLACE MAKES ME FEEL FUNNY. IT'S LIKE THAT RAM BRADBURY STORY YOU READ ME, WITH THE CORN-FIELD AND EACH EAR OF CORN IS SOME-BODY'S LIFE...

...EXCEPT YOU CAN'T HAVE A ROSE FOR EVERYBODY HERE, CAN YOU? JUST SPECIAL PEOPLE...

IS THERE A ROSE HERE FOR THE LEADER, FOR MR. SUSAN?

OH NO, NOT HERE. FOR HIM, I'VE CULTIVATED A MOST SPECIAL ROSE.

COME... LET US LEAVE THIS SCENTED BOWER, I TRUST YOU WILL TAKE CARE OF IT.

YOU'RE LETTING ME LOOK AFTER THE ROSES? THAT'LL BE NICE, I...

AH, BACK ON THE STAIR- WELL, ARE WE GOING FARTHER DOWN?

OH YES, YOU'LL COME TO KNOW THIS PLACE, IN ALL ITS LENGTHS AND DEPTHS.

WHAT'S ON THE NEXT FLOOR?

NOT SO MUCH A FLOOR, BUT MORE A MEZZANINE. THERE ARE THINGS STORED HERE THAT WE'LL SOON HAVE NEED OF FARTHER DOWN.

THERE'S BUT ONE FLOOR TO GO, IF YOU COULD CARRY ONE OF THESE SMALL PARCELS, I'D BE GRATEFUL... BUT TAKE CARE.

SURE, WHAT'S IN THEM?

GELIGNITE.

GELIGNITE? OH JESUS...

Y, I'M NOT HELPING WITH ANY KILLING. WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH IT?

DISPOSE OF IT.

AFTER ALL, AS YOU POINT OUT, YOU WON'T BE NEEDING IT.

ANARCHY WEARS TWO FACES, BOTH CREATOR AND DESTROYER.

THUS DESTROYERS TOPPLE EMPIRES; MAKE A CANVAS OF CLEAN RUBBLE WHERE CREATORS CAN THEN BUILD A BETTER WORLD.

RUBBLE, ONCE ACHIEVED, MAKES FURTHER RUINS MEANS IRRELEVANT.

AWAY WITH OUR EXPLOSIVES, THEN!

AWAY WITH OUR DESTROYERS! THEY HAVE NO PLACE WITHIN OUR BETTER WORLD.

BUT LET US RAISE A TOAST TO ALL OUR BOMBERS, ALL OUR BASTARDS, MOST UN-LOVELY AND MOST UNFORGIVABLE.

LET'S DRINK THEIR HEALTH ...

... THEN MEET WITH THEM NO MORE.

OH, OH, IT'S LOVELY! IT'S... V, WHERE DID YOU GET ...

HUSH PLEASE... SHOW SOME REVERENCE.

COME, LET US BE DISCREET AND PLACE THE GELIGNITE BEHIND THE LILIES ...

OH, V, THESE FLOWERS ...

THESE RAILS... THEY AREN'T REAL GOLD ARE THEY? I LOVE THE WAY IT'S PAINTED...

IT'S LIKE A BEAUTIFUL OLD BARGE.

WHAT'S IT FOR? V?

Y, I SAID, WHAT'S IT FOR?

Y?

Y, PLEASE, YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND NOW YOU WALK OFF WITHOUT ANSWERING ME.

YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN ME ANY ANSWERS AT ALL. I STARTED OUT ASKING YOU WHAT YOU WERE GOING TO DO...

YOU ASKED ME TO REVEAL MY WILL. I HAVE *DONE* SO.

HMM?

Y, I'M TIRED OF GUESSING GAMES. I JUST WANT TO KNOW IF YOU WERE PLANNING TO GO OUT OR NOT.

NO. I HAVE TO STAY IN. I'M WAITING.

WAITING? FOR WHAT?

NOT FOR WHAT. FOR WHOM.

ALL RIGHT! ALL RIGHT, FOR WHOM ARE YOU WAITING?

I'M WAITING FOR THE MAN.

IF THAT'S ANOTHER...

IT IS, ISN'T IT? IT'S ANOTHER BLOODY QUOTE! I'VE HEARD IT ON THE JUKEBOX.

Y, I HATE THIS. ALL OUR CONVERSATIONS TURN INTO CROSS-WORD PUZZLES!

I MEAN, IF THERE'S SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY, IF THERE'S SOMETHING I SHOULD KNOW...

SURELY IT'S NOT SO BAD YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE IT TO ME STRAIGHT.

Y? ARE YOU LISTENING?

LOOK, I'M SERIOUS...

I GIVE UP ON THE PUZZLES. I JUST WANT TO TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN AND READ THE ANSWERS.

WELL?

Y, I'M WAITING.

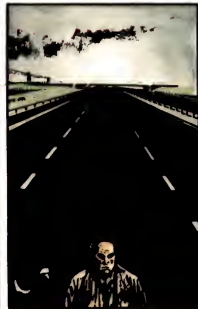
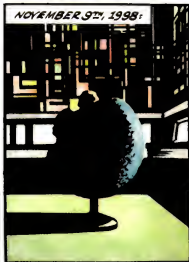
FAREWELL,
MY LOVELY

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME?

**YOU ARE NOW
LEAVING
LONDON**



NOVEMBER 9TH, 1998:



CHAPTER 6
VECTORS

"9.11.98: 2.30 PM,
SCHEDULED PUBLIC
APPEARANCE BY
LEADER TO RESTORE
PUBLIC CALM..."



THEY
CAN'T BE
SERIOUS ABOUT
THIS, CAN THEY?

FROM ALL REPORTS,
POOR OLD SUSAN'S
ABSOLUTELY BARKING!
HOW WILL SEEING
THAT RESTORE
PUBLIC CALM?



ONLY
SOFT CENTRES
LEFT. SHIT.

OF COURSE, EVERY-
BODY'S SEEN IT
COMING FOR YEARS.
ALL THOSE THINGS
HE SAID, BACK
WHEN HE WAS
STILL CHIEF
CONSTABLE...

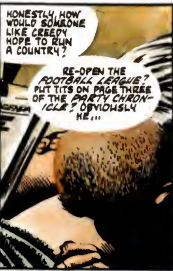


HMM,
PERHAPS
STRAWBERRY...



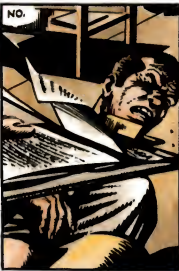
OMF
I BET ... *uh* ... I BET
THIS WAS CREEDEY'S
IDEA. PROBABLY HOPING
FOR £1075 SO HE CAN
DEMAND SUSAN ALLOW
HIM MORE THINGS
FOR HIS PRIVATE
ARMY.

SWEATY
LITTLE CROOK.



HONESTLY, HOW
WOULD SOMEONE
LIKE CREEDEY
HOPE TO RUN
A COUNTRY?

RE-OPEN THE
FOOTBALL LEAGUE?
PUT TITS ON PAGE THREE
OF THE PARTY CHRON-
ICLE? OBVIOUSLY
HE...



NO.



NOT NOY,
CONRAD.
FOR NOW YOU CAN
HAVE A NICE CHOCO-
LATE INSTEAD.
OPEN. OPEN UP..

THERE
AS FOR THE
REST OF THE
BOX ...



... PERHAPS
WHEN YOU'RE
LEADER.



WULL, MESTER CREEPY. YUR LIP EN ABOUT EARLY THEN?

HELLO, ALLY. BY HECK, THE LEADER'S PICKED A WINDY OLD PDA FOR HIS WALKABOUT, EH?

AHE, WULL, ET'S AN ELL WEND THAT BLOWS NAE BASTUD ENNY GUID, EH?

HA HA. YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT, ALLY. YOU MIGHT BE RIGHT...

I MEAN, TAKE THIS PARADE, ONCE THE PUNTERS SEE WHAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE LEADING 'EM...

I MEAN, WHO KNOWS?

CAREFUL WITH THAT CATTLE-BARRIER, SONNY.

SORRY, SIR.

I RECKON AFTER TODAY, THEY'LL BE BEGGING FOR A LEADER WITH GUTS.

I TELL YOU, RUNNING THE FINGER'S GOT POSSIBILITIES. DUNNO WHY NO-BODY'S REALISED BEFORE...

AYE, HANG ABOUT A MENNIT, EH?

SURE, I MEAN, WHY DIDN'T MY PREDECESSOR TRY SOMETHING?

CONFIRM RICHMOND TERRACE CLEAR, OVER?

WHAT WAS HE LIKE, OLD ALMOND? BIT OF A PONCE, FROM ALL ACCOUNTS...

FOX BRAVO TWO, WHITEHALL CLEAR TO CHARING CROSS...

WULL, HE'D NO CONSIDER USEN MY LAADS FER SECURITY, THAT'S CERTEN, TAE STUCK AP.

A YERY SUPERIOR MAAN, MESTER ALMOND. THAA'S WHUT A LIKE ABOUT HU...

A MEAN, YUR NO SUPERIOR ET ALL. QUATE THE RUKVERSE, EN FAACT.

LISSEN, A GOAT A PESS OFF. SEE YIT LATER, A'RIGHT?

RIGHT. SEE YOU LATER.





LOOK... HERE IT IS. IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE HIDDEN, BUT YOU CAN SEE THE LENS.



AND HE WONTERS WHY I WON'T LET HIM TOUCH ME.

OF COURSE, NONE OF HIS SPY CAMERAS ARE WORKING NOW.



A BLIND YOKEUR. HA!

HERE THEY ARE CONEARD. HERE'S WHAT YOU'RE MISSING.



TOO BAD YOU CAN'T SEE THEM.

YOU'VE NO IDEA HOW HARD IT'S BEEN, MANOEUVERING HIM INTO A POSITION WHERE HE CAN TAKE CHARGE.



OF COURSE, I'LL BE MAKING ALL THE REAL DECISIONS... BACKED UP BY YOUR MUSCLE, OBVIOUSLY.

I'M GOING TO BE LIKE EVA PERON; YOU KNOW, DID YOU EVER SEE "EYITA"?



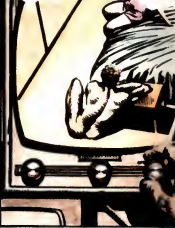
DON'T CRY FOR ME, ARGENTINA. THE TRUTH IS... EH C'MOAN, GESSA DRAG ...

A-A! DON'T GRAB. THIS GRAB COST GOOD MONEY.

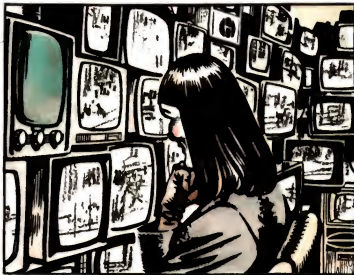


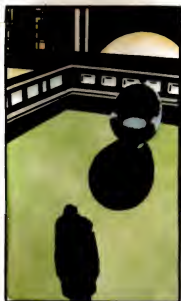
IF YOU WANT SOME, YOU'LL HAVE TO BARY IT.

OH, A'LL EARN ET, A'RIGHT ...



AM VERY RELIABLE ON THE JOBS, SO THEY ...





... WIND SPINS WEATHER-
VANE'S... WALKING, WALKING,
THE HAPPY WANDERER,
VALDERSE, VALDERA,
IT ALL FITS ...

THINK
LIKE HE THINKS,
HE WALKED THIS
ROAD BEFORE ME...
AND DID THOSE FEET
IN ANCIENT TIMES...
BUT WHERE?
WHERE DID HE GO...

LIKE A VIXEN TO ITS LAIR,
LIKE A MOLE TO ITS HOLE,
A VERITABLE VANISHING
ACT, BUT WHERE? THINK
LIKE HIM, THINK LIKE
HIM, FULL OF VOODOO,
FULL OF VISION,
WHAT WOULD HE
DO? WHERE
WOULD HE...

UM?



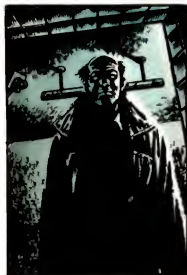
OF COURSE.



OF COURSE!







CHAPTER 7
VINDICATION





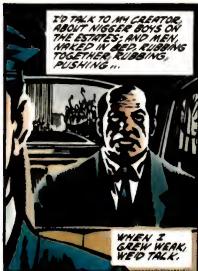
LAUGHING, CHEERING, WAVING; THEY AT LEAST HAVEN'T FORSAKEN ME...

BUT WHY CAN'T I FEEL ANYTHING FOR THEM?



THERE'S ONLY ME HERE, ISN'T THERE? I'VE KNOWN SINCE CHILDHOOD NO ONE ELSE IS REAL.

JUST ME AND GOD, NO BOKE UPON THE DRIVER'S NECK; NO STINKING LEATHERETTE; NO CROWDS...



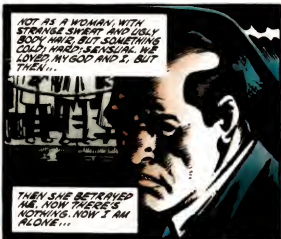
I'D TALK TO MY CREATOR, ABOUT NIGGER BOYS ON THE ESTATES; AND MEN, NAKED IN BED, RUBBING TOGETHER, RUBBING, PUSHING...

WHEN I GREW WEAK, WE'D TALK.



I TALKED TO GOD, WHILE COLLEAGUES LAUGHED...

... BUT I WAS VINDICATED; GOD WAS REAL, EMBODIED IN A FORM THAT I COULD LOVE. WHEN I FIRST SAW HER SCREENS, HER SMOOTH UNYIELDING LINES...



NOT AS A WOMAN, WITH STRANGE SWEAT AND UGLY BODY HAIR; BUT SOMETHING COLD; HARD; SENSUAL. WE LOVED, MY GOD AND I, BUT THEN...

THEN SHE BETRAYED ME. NOW THERE'S NOTHING. NOW I AM ALONE...



... EXCEPT FOR THEM, WAVING BEYOND THE GLASS, I'LL TRY TO LOVE THEM MORE. THEY'RE ALL I HAVE.

SHOULD I WAVE BACK? IT MUSTN'T LOOK REHEARSED, OR INSINCERE, BUT BE INSTEAD A GESTURE FROM THE HEART...



... AS SPONTANEOUS AS THEIR OWN.



THEY LOVE ME, I PASS ON.

ENGLAND PREVAILS.

A'RIGHT... CUT DOON THE EMBANKMENT THE WHITEHALL AN' WAIT FOR THE MOTORCADE WITH THE PARTY FAITHFUL DOON THERE.

... AN' LESS HAVE A BET MUIR CHEERIN' THESE TIME, EH?





WAVE HARDER!
COME ON! WHERE'S THE KIDS? HASN'T ANYONE GOT A FLOWER TO GIVE HIM?

YES.



YES, DESPITE MY FEAR, BECAUSE OF US, BECAUSE IT'S INSIGNIFICANT, LIKE EVERYTHING ABOUT ME...

YES, THOUGH THEY'LL KILL ME, BECAUSE IF I DON'T, LIFE MEANS NOTHING...



YES, BECAUSE OUR LIVES WERE WASTED ON YOUR VISIONS, AND THEY WERE ALL WE HAD.

YES, BECAUSE I CAN'T BEAR WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO US...



YES, BECAUSE HISTORY'S MOVING MY LEGS AND NOTHING CAN STOP ME...

OY!

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I KNOW HER, HIGH PARTY. LETTING HER THROUGH'LL LOOK GOOD.



YES, BECAUSE YOUR KIND LED US TO HELL AND NOW YOU SAY OUR ONLY HOPE IS STERNER LEADERS...

THIS WAY, SURE HE'LL APPRECIATE IT...



YES, BECAUSE I'M NEARLY THERE AND EVERYONE'S THINKING "SHE MUST BE IMPORTANT" AND I'M NOT, BUT I WILL BE...

STOP. LET ME TALK TO MY PEOPLE...



YES, BECAUSE I HAD A LIFE, A WORLD, A MARRIAGE AND I VALUED THEM BUT YOU DIDN'T...

SO NICE...

SO NICE MEETING SOMEONE, DO SHAKE HANDS...



YES, BECAUSE WE'VE MET A DOZEN TIMES BEFORE AND MY DEEK DIED FOR YOU AND GOD, YOU DON'T EVEN, DON'T EVEN REMEMBER MY FACE!

PLEASE... DON'T BE SHY...

YES, YES...



YES.







OOUGH...



BLOOD.



FLESH AND BLOOD
AFTER ALL...

I KILLED
YOU, YOU
MONSTER...



I KILLED
YOU!





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